

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 1965 - SB 2204**

March 5, 2014

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Repeals Tenn. Code Ann. §16-2-506, relative to judicial districts, on August 31, 2022. Requires the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (TACIR) to recommend and publish a proposed statewide judicial redistricting plan every eight years beginning no later than August 31, 2016. Requires TACIR to conduct at least one public hearing within each of the state's three grand divisions prior to recommending such plan. Requires the creation of a joint legislative committee on judicial redistricting, consisting of five members of the Senate and five members of the House, meeting every eight years beginning no later than August 31, 2017 to review the proposed plan submitted by TACIR and to recommend to the General Assembly the enactment of the TACIR plan as proposed, the enactment of the TACIR plan as modified by the joint legislative committee, or the enactment of an alternative statewide judicial redistricting plan.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures - \$28,300/FY15-16 and Every Eight Years Subsequent  
Exceeds \$3,300/FY17-18 and Every Eight Years Subsequent**

**Other Fiscal Impact – A precise fiscal impact to state expenditures due to judicial redistricting is indeterminable until such districts are proposed.**

**Assumptions:**

- According to the District Attorneys General Conference (DAGC), redistricting will have a significant fiscal impact on the DAGC; however without knowing which districts are to be adjusted and the extent of the adjustment, a cost for implementation cannot be calculated. Potential costs would include staffing changes or additions, office leases, operational costs, case file reassignment or transference, district renumbering and contract restructuring for grants and child support.
- According to the Administrative Office of the Courts, determination of actual costs to the state court system due to redistricting would be incalculable until new judicial district lines are proposed.
- According to TACIR, any cost associated with completion of the study can be accommodated within existing resources and with existing staff.

- The provisions of the bill will require TACIR to hold three public hearings across the state. TACIR anticipates sending six staff members as well as Commission members to all three public hearings, resulting in an increase in state expenditures of \$28,300, for mileage, hotels, meals, hearing room rentals, and publication of hearing notices.
- It is assumed such public hearings will begin in FY15-16 and recur every eight years.
- The provisions of the bill would require the establishment of a joint legislative committee consisting of five senators and five representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Speaker of the Senate.
- According to Legislative Administration, each member appointed to the joint legislative committee will receive per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses. Based on FY14-15 rates, the resulting increase in state expenditures will be \$3,276 {[\$188 per diem per member + (.47 travel reimbursement per mile x 297 round trip miles)] x 10 members} per one day meeting. It is assumed that the committee will meet at least one day.
- It is assumed such reimbursement will begin in FY17-18 and recur every eight years.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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